REGISTRAR CALLS FOR MORE FINANCIAL AID

Mr. E. T. Ebbels called for more finance for Housing Co-ops. at the opening of Lombard House on 27 July.

Mr. Ebbels said, that in his capacity as Registrar of Co-operatives in Victoria, he had had a very close and happy association with the Y.C.W. Co-operative Societies.

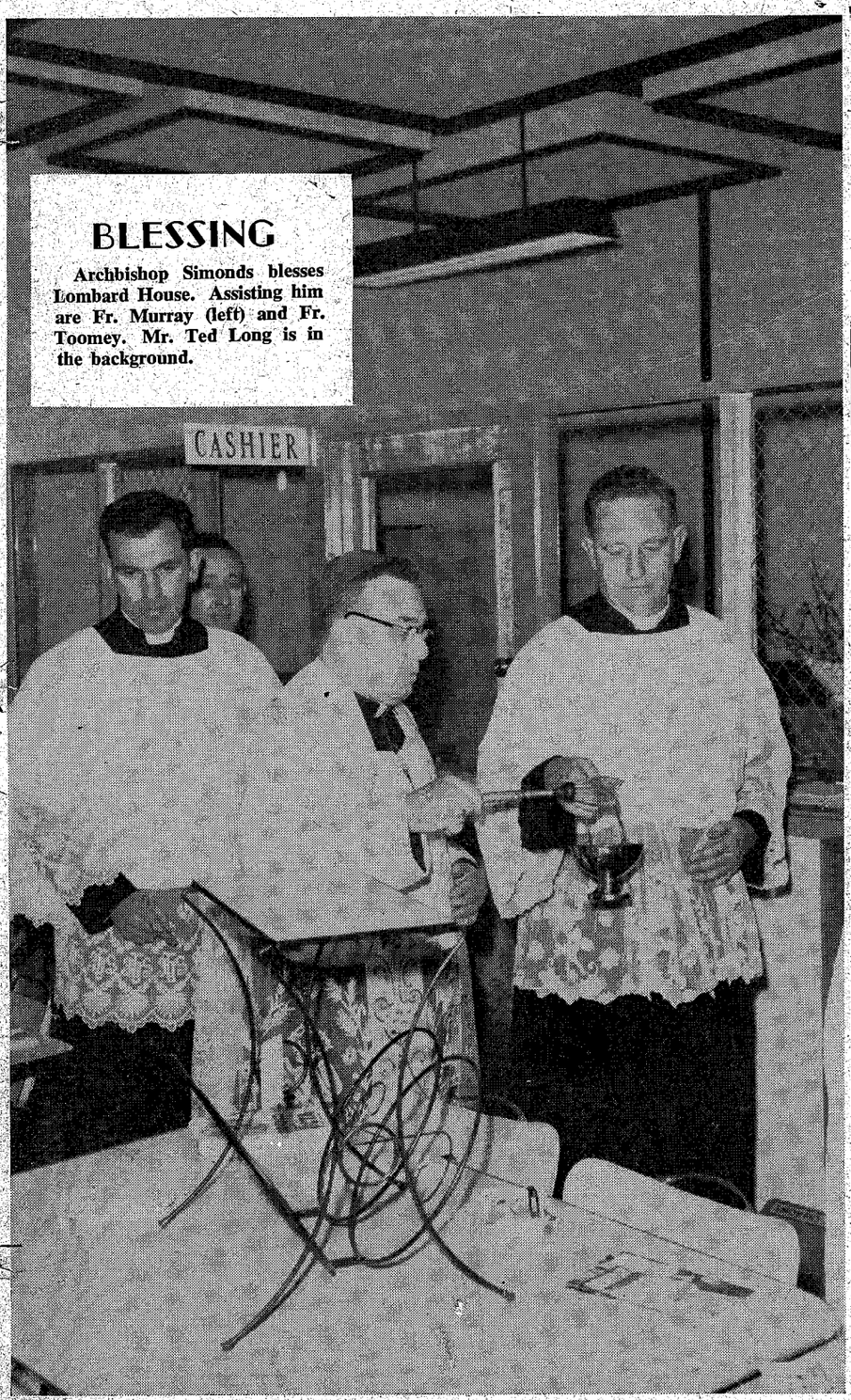
After praising the work already done by the Y.C.W. co-operatives he called upon banks and insurance and lending companies to make more money available for Co-op. Housing Societies so that they could continue their good work of providing homes for many more people.

THE CO-OPERATOR
NOT FOR US - BUT FOR ALL

VOL. 1, No. 1. AUGUST-OCTOBER, 1960 PRICE, 6d.

Archbishop Simonds Blesses Y.C.W. Co-op's New Building

OPENING GIVES CO-OP IMPETUS



BLESSING

Archbishop Simonds blesses Lombard House. Assisting him are Fr. Murray (left) and Fr. Toomey. Mr. Ted Long is in the background.

Nearly 300 people crowded the floor-coverings showroom of "Lombard House", the Y.C.W. Co-operative Societies' new offices and furniture store in a'Beckett Street, City, for its blessing and opening by Archbishop Simonds on Wednesday, 27th July.

Archbishop Simonds, who was the first Episcopal chairman of the Y.C.W., said he had been looking forward to the opening for a long time.

Recalling his early associations with the Y.C.W., Dr. Simonds said the Bishops of Australia had decided in 1937 to establish Catholic Action here, and he was chosen as chairman of the organization for young men.

There was no blueprint of what form this organization would take, and it was mainly through the enthusiasm of Father Lombard that the Y.C.W., as established by Canon Cardijn in Belgium, was adopted in Australia.

"And," said Dr. Simonds, "so successful was Fr. Lombard in his work that Mgr. Cardijn was able to say, when he recently visited here, that the Y.C.W. in Australia had developed in the way he had dreamed."

"The Y.C.W. is Catholic Action in the strictest sense and it began officially in 1941, with Fr. Lombard in charge. His work so impressed me when I came to Melbourne the following year that I gave him and his work my whole-hearted support.

"The Y.C.W. exercises a spiritual apostolate and is designed to give purpose to the life of young people," Dr. Simonds said.

"But as well as giving a spiritual basis, Fr. Lombard saw early that young people needed help in material things, and so the different Y.C.W. services came into being.

"Among services such as sport and housing is the Pre-Cana Conferences which prepares young people for marriage. Many thousands of young people all over Australia have been helped by these Conferences. In this way, if in no other, the Y.C.W. has left its mark on the country.

"The housing, trading and insurance co-operatives were a natural development of the desire of the Y.C.W. to help young people."

His Grace said it would be difficult to name a more valuable social service than that of setting up young families in their own homes by their own co-operative efforts.

"Co-operative effort is also sound social theory, in harmony with the teaching of the Holy See. It enables young people to steer a course between the monopolists who exploit their needs, and the type of socialism which depresses their personal initiative."

TRIBUTE TO FATHER LOMBARD

Dr. Simonds said the name, "Lombard House," chosen for the new building, was a tribute to Fr. Lombard's outstanding work. He gave himself to the cause of the apostolate of youth with a dynamism and drive that won the admiration of all who came under the influence of his vibrant personality.

He said he was glad that Fr. Lombard had been successful in keeping the Y.C.W. free of political entanglement and true to its spiritual basis.

"It is a source of grief to all of us that Father Lombard has been stricken down by a very grave illness.

"I visited him on Tuesday, the anniversary of his ordination, and I was delighted to find that he had made considerable progress while I was absent in Europe.

"He and we are very hopeful that by the Grace of God he will be restored to full health and vigour. I am sure that your prayers for his welfare will continue unabated."

(Continued on Page 5)

EDITORIAL

WE ASK YOU

THE **Co-operator,** in this its first issue, asks its readers to face the question — can we improve the economic conditions of our country? Can we provide a distribution of property and wealth more in keeping with the rights of individuals? With the rights of families? Can we bring about a democratic ownership and control of the supply of goods and services we need?

On the reaction of people to these questions will depend the future economic set-up of our country.

Co-operatives — true co-operatives — give people the chance to show their re-action. The group of co-operatives, of which the **Co-operator** is the official voice, namely, the Y.C.W. Co-operative Societies, show an encouraging re-action by people.

It is the aim of the **Co-operator** to inform all members and potential members of the progress of such co-operatives; to discuss how further developments can be made and to examine various social problems confronting the individual and the family.

This periodical wants to enliven the interest and action of people in the vital subject of improving their way of life.

Because that is what co-operatives are—a means of enabling people by combining with one another to overcome their economic problems and thus attain more economic independence, so necessary for full Christian living.

The proper growth of co-operatives will not occur without a process of thought and action flowing through them.

What co-operatives to form? How to run them? How to expand them? These questions constantly crop up. The true co-operative with active and interested members will find the right answers, because co-operators think not of their own gain but of the benefit for all.

Thus our motto: "Not for us, but for all."

May the **Co-operator** play its part in spreading the spirit and practice of our motto, so that economic independence, as well as political independence, will operate in our country.

CO-OPS ANSWER POVERTY

MONCTON, Canada.—Some 140 members of Co-operative Farm Services Ltd. heard their president unfold at their recent annual meeting here a story of continued progress. He forecast in his report even greater things ahead for this member-owned enterprise. He emphasized the democratic character of co-operatively-owned business.

The financial statement, showed total assets of £389,000. This includes the new creamery-dairy erected last year and the grocery, hardware and feed retail facilities. The statement reminded the members that these facilities had been paid for with the members' earnings in the Co-op. since its inception.

The net surplus for the year was £32,500. Of this amount, the meeting elected to allocate £23,000 in dividends to the members. The balance of £9000 was earmarked for reserves, payment of interest on share capital, and payment of income tax.

The directors' report deplored the tendency in their economy towards a nation of a few rich and many poor. Poverty must go, the report went on, because it causes people to consume little and produce less. The directors' report attributed poverty for the many to bad economics, bad politics, bad education and bad ethics. This state of affairs can and must be remedied by co-operation, the report continued.

Published by Bert De Luca for the Co-operative Development, 157 a'Beckett Street, Melbourne, and printed by The Advocate Press, Melbourne.

A BOOK REVIEW

By DICK MAGREE

Problems of Loving Your Neighbours

AN AMERICAN writer, Vance Packard, has in recent years come up with two best sellers. And while his books have been based on the American rat race, they have sold extensively in other countries, including Australia, and his findings have been taken to have some significance when applied to our society, since we follow American trends so much these days.

His first book—"The Hidden Persuaders"—dealt with Advertising, and was of value mainly to people concerned with earning a living in that medium.

However, he struck a general interest chord here and there particularly in his class classifications. For the purpose of advertising Packard divided the community into six classes . . . upper-upper, lower-upper, upper-middle, lower-middle, upper-lower and lower-lower.

He then went on to show that the first three groups represented fifteen per cent of the population, and he described them broadly as the "discriminating class".

The bottom group—the lower - lower constituted twenty per cent of the population and he described these as the hopeless . . . those without any money to spend. The remaining sixty-five per cent, those from the lower-middle and the upper-lower, were the people susceptible to advertising. Unlike the discriminating class they did not have a preconceived notion of what they wanted to buy, and unlike the bottom group they had money to spend.

In his latest book—"The Status Seeker" — Vance Packard really gets down to this fascinating subject of class distinction. Here he offers the findings of an apparently thorough examination of class behaviour under headings ranging from "The Moulding of Tender Minds" to "The Sociology of Sex Appeal".

While a review of the last mentioned chapter might prove more entertaining we shall keep within the scope of this publication and take a look at Packard's chapters relating to selecting the place where we live and the home we live in.

SNOB APPEAL

Fortunately we are a long way behind the Americans when it comes to adding snob appeal to our homes. There is little danger of us falling for an air-conditioned kennel for our French poodle. And while we have got used to some pretty fancy sales talk we hardly come across an advertisment such as ". . . Most important —your address is Moonee Ponds, and Moonee Ponds in Melbourne is more than an address, it is a symbol of tradition and prestige—a supreme achievement in luxurious, suburban living".

The average American pulls up roots and moves to a different (and a better, of course!) area every five years, while we Australians buy a home for life. And so it's rather like getting married . . . just as you acquire inlaws who may or may not be to your liking, so you are going to have neighbours who may become your drinking mates or may become your sparring partners.

People who are status seekers to the point of snobbery create their own problems, of course, and the greater the snob the more problems. But even the most charitable and friendly young couple trying to settle down in a new home can be hit by problems connected with neighbours.

The modern home's numerous windows and the size of the windows, plus the price of Venetian Blinds, make it very difficult not to live with your neighbours.

It's a frightening lucky dip . . . you can build the home of your dreams on the block of your dreams with a glorious view and a promise of sewerage, and then suddenly you've got neighbours who want to borrow your axe, your spade, your hammer, and your ladder, they own a barking dog that can jump your gate and run amuck all over the lawn seed, and they've got children with runny noses who get up on the fence and stare at you. If they haven't got a car you have the choice of being mean or becoming a taxi service.

What is the answer to this problem . . . do we sell our house and move somewhere else, or do we stay and grow big trees and a sound-proof hedge!

PARENTS

Are your sons and daughters making any effort to prepare for their future?

Youth tends to live for the present and ignore the need for planning—you can assist your children's future by encouraging them to save through the Security Co-operative Permanent Building Society, operating from "Lombard House".

Typical Payments (Monthly)

Amount of Loan	before Loan	After Loan
£2000	£3 0 4	£11 7 0
£3000	£4 9 6	£16 19 6

Remember—17 is not too young to start.

LITTLE BUSINESSMAN ON WAY OUT?

Present business trends in Australia suggest that small businesses have only a short time to survive.

This is a natural conclusion to the large number of mergers and take-overs occurring in industry and commerce.

The ordinary citizen looks to the Federal Government to protect the nation from an economic set-up which deprives him of his natural rights. The Government seems to have an each-way approach to the question of monopoly capitalism. The Attorney-General announces an investigation is being made to tighten up the law to guard against monopoly growth. The Treasurer denies that there is any evidence of monopoly growth. The Treasurer and the Premier of Victoria all are too rapt about the exciting economic progress taking place in Australia to have time to look at dangers in many current economic dangers.

ELIMINATED

The economic leaders of our nation are dyed-in-the wool advocates of rugged private enterprise. The little business can be eliminated or swallowed up if it serves the profit greed of the controllers.

The mass of the people who are not owners or controllers of property have little hope of restoring a pattern of a christian social order. But collectively through economic co-operation they can wage a successful fight for more widespread economic independence.

Co-operation is a practical application of the principles of the right of the individual and of love of fellow man. It aims to protect the right of the consumer because the owners of the true Co-operative are the consumers.

In its pattern of trade with other business the co-operative uses its services to help develop men in small businesses.

The economic set-up of the nation is important to individuals. The **Co-operator** will discuss aspects of it in its future issues.

In the meantime here is a statement on monopoly by a world-known Catholic sociologist:

Too Little for Too Much

Precisely because it sells too little for too much, monopoly cuts down the amount that would be produced under competitive conditions and cuts down, in consequence, on the number of jobs open to producers.

It restricts unduly the scope of a man's right to work.

That is the first way in which monopoly offends against social justice.

It does so, secondly, by breeding economic stagnation.

The effect on monopoly is to eradicate competition and so slow down to a sluggish crawl that process of progressive industrial change on which maintenance and improvement of a country's standard of living so largely depend.

As a result, many are deprived of that sufficiency which is theirs by right.

And they are denied it by those who are allowed, by the tolerance of monopoly practice, to gain their livelihood at the expense of the community instead of being forced by the competitive spur to seek their living in its service.

The remedy for monopolistic depredation is not socialisation, which is merely private monopoly writ large; but the restoration with adequate safeguards of a soundly competitive economy.

—Rev. Paul Crane, S.J., The Christian Democrat, London, March 11, 1958.

Time of Decision

In the world of the 1960's, we in the west shall form a small, wealthy elite in the vast, poverty-stricken society of mankind—a society shot through with revolutionary prospects and desires.

Confronted with this fact, we have only two choices. We can follow the fatal road of other wealthy elites, like the pampered court of Cnossos or the French nobility at Versailles, play our games and close our hearts until the unfolding of a wider destiny engulfs us all.

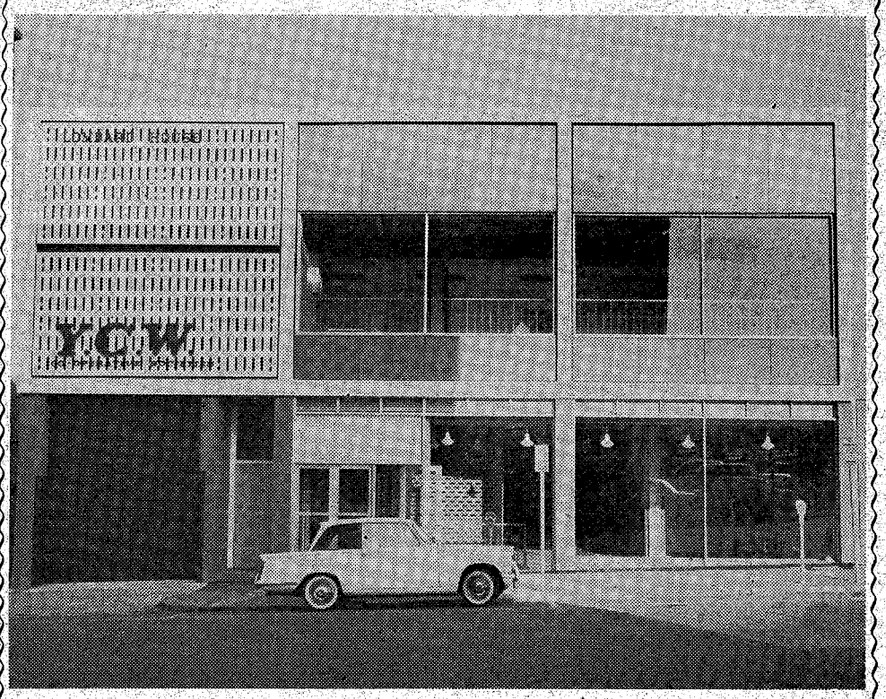
Or we can use our wealth to redeem the promise of our free society and extend its working to our fellowmen who everywhere labour and look for change and growth with minds divided between penury and hope.

The 1960's will compel the taking of this decision.

CANADIAN CO-OPS

A Canadian paper "The Financial Post", recently reported that about fifty-two per cent of the ownership of manufacturing, mining, gas and oil companies in Canada was now in U.S.A. hands and that the only way to ensure Canadian ownership of the productivity of Canadians was through co-operatives.

New Co-op Home



A front view of the new Y.C.W. Co-op. building—"Lombard House."

The building cost £40,000 and £25,000 was spent on renovations.

The building is 9880 square feet in area and consists of two floors. A bulk store is being built in the backyard measuring 52 feet by 28.

Nova Scotia Opens Another Co-op Store

An indication of the growth of co-operatives overseas may be gained from a recent article in "The Maritime Co-operator", fortnightly newspaper of the co-operative movement in the Maritime provinces of Canada. The article states that a progressive step has been taken in the town of Windsor, Nova Scotia, with the opening of a large co-operative shopping centre.

At the opening ceremony speakers recalled the early days of the co-operative, back in 1920, when farmers in the area got together to buy feed in truckloads and which, by 1960, had grown to a £500,000 business, with modern shopping facilities.

The centre, a converted and remodelled fruit warehouse, is a building one hundred feet long by forty feet wide, which now consists of a service floor, providing a service area basement for storage of feeds, building materials, roofing and heavy goods. It is an up-to-date supermarket, with plate-glass front and other features of the modern retail store in which groceries and meats are sold. It will also handle hardware and appliances.

The Windsor Co-operative Store is a branch of the Hants Co-op. Services, one of the leaders of the co-operative movement in Nova Scotia. It began in a small way in the early 1920's and by re-investing savings earned by the business the members were able to open five new branches throughout the province.

While feeds and fertilizers are still the items in which the largest volume of business is done, other goods sold by the Co-op. cover a wide range, including meats and groceries, electric appliances and machinery, building supplies and clothing. Co-op. Insurance is also handled by the company.

Nova Scotia, where the growth and progress of co-operatives has been very rapid, lies on the eastern coast of Canada. Jutting out into the Atlantic, it is connected to the mainland by an isthmus about fifteen miles wide. The area of the province is 21,000 square miles (approximately the size of Tasmania) and supports a population of 635,000. Halifax, the capital, has 70,000 inhabitants. Fisheries are the main industry, but timber and fruit are also produced, with a little mining for coal and iron.

According to the last census (1959) Credit Unions in Nova Scotia had 60,000 members with assets amounting to £6,000,000.

Your Co-op Can Insure Your Assets—Your Risks

CHECK YOUR COVER

On House against personal accident
On Contents against Workers' Compensation
On Motor Vehicle against public risk
On Business against all risk

RING THE Y.C.W. CO-OP.: 34-6651

Ask for Mr. E. Hutchinson

OUR REPRESENTATIVE WILL GLADLY CALL ON YOU

History of the Y.C.W. Co-op Societies

A STORY OF ACHIEVEMENT

by Harry Pobjoy

From nothing to something is progress.

So, from nothing in 1943 to a group of housing, credit and trading societies with an asset value running into more than £3½ million is something and is also definitely progress.

That something, briefly, is the story of the Y.C.W. co-operative movements.

It started in 1943 when the Y.C.W. conducted a campaign among young workers. The movement wanted to know if young people were saving for the future.

The facts showed, among other things, that young workers about to get married found it hard to raise money to buy a home.

So the Y.C.W. in Victoria approached the Government of the day with a plan to form co-operative housing societies to make it easier for young people to get a home.

When Parliament had passed the necessary legislation, the Y.C.W. moved quickly and successfully to set up co-operatives, and by 1954 there were 14 societies with a share capital of £3,315,000 and a membership of 1924.

Nearly 1000 homes had been completed and another 726 were being built.

Now the figures read 20 societies, share capital of £3½ million and 2300 homes built.

Membership of each society averages 50 and, as housing finance is still hard to get, a scheme unique to the Y.C.W. was the formation in 1954 of a permanent society of unrestricted size.

Anyone may join by taking out a minimum two shares and then deposit money regularly until he wishes to obtain a loan. Share capital and amount deposited is used to determine amount and priority of loan.

Present membership is 650 with £87,000 already loaned upon 35 homes.

Trading Society Began In 1948

After building finance came furnishing. In 1948, the Y.C.W. registered a co-operative trading society with a nominal capital of £100,000 and started business the next year. Turnover was a small £18,000 in the first 18 months of operation.

With a paid-up capital of £24,000, there are now 2300 members who can purchase goods such as furnishings, builders, and general hardware and electrical goods.

Last available figures show a turnover of £150,000.

Profit was over £18,000, more than the turnover during the first 18 months of business.

Part of this profit, according to the rules of the society, was distributed to the members who had made purchases during the year or invested in the society. Directors distributed a record £7000 in this way.

But establishment of the housing societies was only part of the answer to the big question: how can the family be helped economically?

A conference on family economic problems was held in 1952, and one of the decisions made at this conference was to hold monthly education meetings for those interested in co-operatives.

And at one of these monthly meetings, the question of co-operative insurance was raised.

Investigation showed that home owners, among others, could save on insurance if, like the trading society, a co-operative company were formed.

Next move, in 1954, was the registration of such a company which offers insurance cover in houses and contents and is an agent for all kinds of insurance, except life. Last year's income was £17,000.

SEE - JUDGE - ACT

In 1953 a co-operative building group was launched, but this ceased operating in 1955.

The classic Y.C.W. technique, based on the experiences of life, is: *See, Judge* and *Act.*

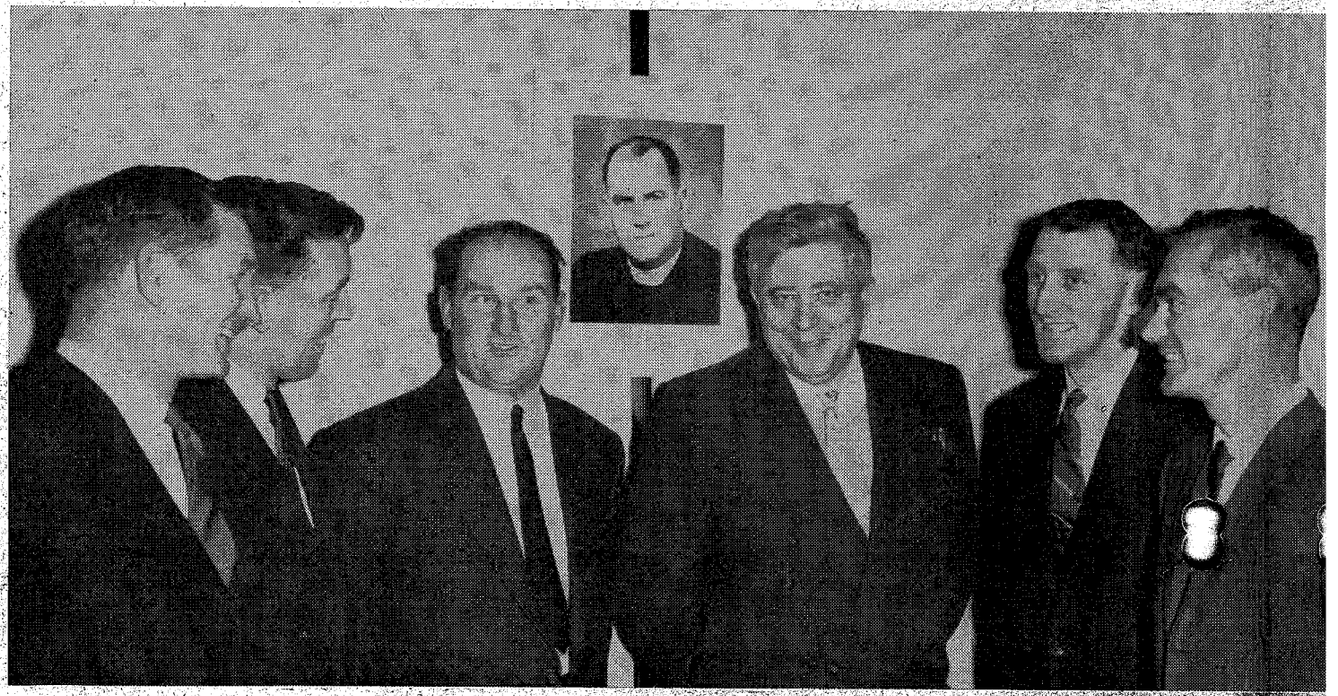
Y.C.W. members, as already shown, had *seen* the shortage of houses in the early 1940's, *judged* that this was a problem for those about to be married and also for those newly married—and *acted* by setting up housing societies which now number 20.

Co-operation is an economic system which not only aims at a sufficiency of material goods and a secure standard of living for all, but deliberately makes room for other than monetary values.

Its emphasis is on welfare no less than wealth.

—W. P. WATKINS.

SOME WHO RUN IT



The Chairman's W

Co-ops — A Means to a

Another important type of co-operative is the Credit Union. It is, in effect, a people's small bank with specific rules, and is controlled by directors elected by members.

Members deposit money regularly and obtain loans from the union, just as with a bank. But, unlike a bank and because they are shareholders in business conducted, members taking out loans also earn interest.

At a conference, held in 1954, a group of family men interested in co-operatives decided to develop parish credit societies, and a further development in this field has been the forming of an association of Catholic Credit Societies to help spread credit union ideas. There are now 14 societies in the association, 12 from Melbourne parishes and 1 each from Ballarat and Maryknoll, the pioneer Catholic rural settlement which is run strictly on co-operative lines.

The various societies, which welcome any parishioners as members, have a membership of about 1500 and have made loans of about £100,000 over the last 4 years.

Largest of the societies is the central credit union which last year granted loans totalling £9300 and paid rebates and interest of £560 to members.

Latest move in this field

PHOTO

Above: Mr. W. Davey welcomes guests (Left to rig Mr. R. Delecluse, A bishop Simonds, W. F. Davey, Fr. Toomey and Cr. L.

◆

Below (Left to rig Messrs. L. McNair, Rundle, T. A. Col K. G. McIntyre, R Maybury and B. C A photo of Fr. Lombard is in ground.

Welcome

Higher End

is the formation of a Co-operative Christian Development Society to handle credit union education matters.

Co-operative Trading Society secretary, Ted Long, said: "We learnt a lot about co-operatives from the late Monsignor Coady, of Nova Scotia, who almost single-handed showed how a poor land could be economically independent if brains and money were used properly.

"Monsignor Coady said, 'Co-operatives are the means to a higher end, to enable men to win by their own struggle the economic freedom and independence necessary for full Christian living.'"

"It is a fact," Ted Long said, "that in Australia, too, few people control too much wealth of our nation.

"Co-operatives are designed to give more people a say in their own business affairs," he said.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Co-ops Solved An Urgent Problem

Speakers at the opening spoke in glowing terms about the people who had founded the Y.C.W. Co-op and the great work it has done over the years.

Archbishop Simonds said that the period of membership in the Y.C.W. usually ends at the age of 25. But two of its most distinguished pioneer leaders, Frank McCann and Ted Long, decided to carry the spirit of the Y.C.W. into adult life to tackle some of the material problems that beset young people when they wished to set up a home of their own.

These two fine leaders of the Y.C.W. knew by personal experience how overwhelming are the financial difficulties encountered in procuring one's own home, and how deeply the ownership of a home affects the stability of marriage.

So they began in a humble way to build up a number of Y.C.W. Co-operative Societies to enable young people to purchase or build their own homes, to furnish and insure them by their own co-operative efforts.

These Co-operative Societies, which developed out of the Y.C.W. spirit, met with phenomenal success. About 2500 homes have already been provided for young couples, and about 6000 families share in their benefits.

IMPORTANT

Mr. Rene Delecluse, an international Y.C.W. organizer, visiting Australia for three months, said the opening was important because it was the result of an enquiry made nearly 20 years ago by young workers who found that housing was a problem.

"Some think that all workers' problems are in industrial relations, but this is only part of a worker's life," Mr. Delecluse said.

"The International Y.C.W. is very proud of what has been achieved by the Y.C.W. in Melbourne," he said. "Its housing scheme has all the more merit in having been carried out on the Co-operative basis. And what has been done is in keeping with the dignity of the human person."

Mr. L. McNair, Co-operative Housing Society Director, and Mr. Long thanked Archbishop Simonds.

Mr. Long said the record of the Y.C.W. had been a process of education and action. He felt that it should be made clear that "Lombard House" had been purchased by the Y.C.W. Co-operatives as distinct from the Y.C.W. Movement.

The Co-operatives would be conducted in the spirit of trying to help more people, the ideal being mutual help and mutual service.

Archbishop Simonds speaks at the opening (Left to right): Mr. L. Magree, Cr. H. Cantwell, Mr. F. H. McCann and Mr. R. Delecluse.

Those Who Were There

Representative of Church, governmental, municipal, commercial, professional and social life, assembled in the spacious, splendidly-appointed and excellently equipped £65,000 new premises of the Y.C.W. Co-operative Trading, Housing and Credit Societies for their official opening.

Mr. P. J. Mitchell, Director of the Y.C.W. Societies, welcomed Archbishop Simonds and the official guests, among whom were Crs. L. T. Fox and H. G. Cantwell; the Town Clerk, Mr. F. H. Rogan; the Registrar of Co-operative Housing Societies, Mr. E. T. Ebbels; members of the Advisory Committee of Co-operative Housing Societies, Messrs. K. G. McIntyre and F. J. Rasmussen; the secretary of the Committee of the Federation of Co-operative Housing Societies of Victoria, Mr. T. A. Collins; members of Youth Organizations Assistance Committee, Dr. J. E. Cockerell, Mr. F. H. Brooks and Miss N. Sutherland; representatives of lending institutions which have assisted the Y.C.W. Housing Societies, Messrs. R. K. Jenner and B. J. Rose (Commonwealth Savings Bank), E. M. Beattie (State Savings Bank), E. E. Witney (E.S. and A. Bank), A. M. Morgan (A.N.Z. Bank), A. McDonald and J. S. Carrick (City Mutual Life); Young Catholic Students, Father P. Kane; Catholic Women's Social Guild, Mesdames Tinetti and Faul; Y.C.W., Father K. Toomey and Mr. L. Magree; Y.C.W. (Girls), Fathers B. Burke and J. O'Callaghan and Miss S. Carroll; Catholic Welfare Organization, Dame Mary Daly; International Y.C.W., Mr. Rene Delecluse; Sir Lewis Burne and Mr. N. McDonald (building foreman of W. C. Burne and Sons); Messrs. D. Smith, D. Tracey and S. Bracero (architects); Mr. W. Gartner (auditor); and Messrs. B. Hayes, T. J. Kane and C. G. Heffey (solicitors).

Among the priests were Very Rev. Fr. E. Kelly, M.S.C.; Very Rev. Fr. E. Chapman (St. Columban's) and Rev. Frs. G. Quilter, P.P., M. Rafter, F. Murphy, J. Murray and P. Garland.

THANKS TO ALL HELPERS

Since its beginning the Y.C.W. Co-op Societies have had hundreds of helpers.

The **Co-operator** records its tribute to all who have helped in the formation and growth of the Y.C.W. Co-operative Societies and the various parish credit societies.

Space is inadequate to thank them all personally. Well-deserved tributes have been paid to the Y.C.W. Movement, to its founder—Rev. Fr. F. W. Lombard—and to those early pioneers, Frank McCann and Ted Long.

Of all the others deserving thanks we mention:—

- the original directors, members and officials of the early Co-operative Housing Societies;
- the directors and members of Y.C.W. Co-operative Housing Societies who insisted that their societies retained their association with the Young Christian Workers' Movement;
- the original directors and members of the Y.C.W. Co-operative Trading Society and its early member customers;
- the foundation directors, office-bearers and members of the various Co-operative Credit Societies;
- the foundation directors and members of the Security Co-operative Permanent Building Society.

A BEACON TO OTHERS

Chairman of Directors of the Trading Society, Mr. W. F. Davey, thanked the State Government for the help given to co-operative societies.

He welcomed Archbishop Simonds as the first Episcopal Chairman of the Y.C.W. (1943-1953). He referred to Father Lombard's dedication, self-sacrifice, ability and vision.

He said "Lombard House" was the centre of one Co-operative Trading and Insurance Society, twenty Terminating Housing Societies, one Permanent Building Society, one Credit Society and one Association of Credit Societies, which had fourteen affiliated Credit Societies. Some 6000 families, Catholic and non-Catholic, were participating in these Co-operatives.

Employees of the Y.C.W. Co-operatives now number twenty-four, Mr. Ted Long being General Secretary and Mr. Frank McCann General Manager.

"The Y.C.W. has lit a flame," Mr. Davey said, "which flickered for a time, but now burns steadily and may become a beacon to others in the field."

Buffet tea was served, and to enable the maximum number to inspect "Lombard House" and its various departments and displays it was kept open until 9 p.m.

NEW INTEREST RATES ARE MOST ATTRACTIVE

NEW interest rates payable to depositors with the permanent Building Society were recently announced by the Chairman, Mr. B. Carr.

Mr. Carr said that the new rates to apply from 1st July 1960 would be 4% on call and 5% on six months notice of withdrawal. The purpose of this increase is to encourage members and non-members to place money on deposit with the Society.

The interest rates are attractive and the depositor knows that his money is doing a great good by supplying much needed finance for home builders.

The amount of a deposit does not have to be large. If each of our members deposited £50 (less than the average savings bank deposit) the Society would have a fund sufficient to finance one hundred homes immediately. Deposits can be withdrawn without fuss or bother at any time.

NEW LAW

A recent amendment of the Co-operative Housing Society Act has allowed Housing Societies to arrange for the insurance of their members' payments against sickness and unemployment.

This amendment was introduced into Parliament at the request of the YCW group of societies. While the legislation was being discussed, reference was made in the House to the work which is being done by this group.

The machinery to enable this type of insurance to be carried out by our own Insurance Division is at present being prepared and we should be able to offer a policy to our members in the next few months.

HOUSING VIEWS

In the Event of Death

A recent circular under this heading reminded Housing Society members of the benefits of the Victorian Housing Societies Mortgage Protection Scheme.

This scheme, run by the Federation of Co-operative Housing Societies in conjunction with the City Mutual Life Assurance Society, provides members with sufficient cover to pay the amount owing by them on their home at the time of their death. The premiums are very low in comparison with other types of insurances.

On the average they do not exceed three shillings per week. It is surprising that a greater number of our members have not taken advantage of the scheme.

It is easy to join. In most cases no medical examination is required, members merely completing a statement of health for the insurance company.

The benefits of the scheme are so good, that the directors of our Permanent Society have been negotiating to have their members included.

It is hoped that an announcement will be made within the next month.

INCREASING DEMAND FOR HOME OWNERSHIP

We came across some interesting figures lately dealing with home ownership in Australia.

Nature of Ocupancy of Private Houses

	1911	1933	1957
	%	%	%
Owner	45	42	54
Purchaser by instalments	5	13	19
Total	50	55	73
Tenant	45	38	25
Other	5	7	2
	100	100	100

These figures show the increasing demand over the years by people who want homes of their own.

The percentage of homes either owned or being purchased by their occupier is probably higher in Australia than in any other country in the world.

This tradition of home ownership is something which we as Christians should try to encourage, for nothing gives a man a greater realization of his dignity as a human being than a sense of ownership.

This tradition is in danger over the next ten years as the rapid increase in marriages in Australia may well outstrip the money available for housing finance.

Tas. Y.C.W. Start Housing Co-op

News was recently received of the formation, in Launceston, of a Co-operative Housing Society sponsored by the Tasmanian Y.C.W.

This is the first Y.C.W. venture into co-operatives outside Victoria and we applaud those responsible for it.

The enthusiastic Board of Directors is headed by Mr. Peter McManus, a Launceston solicitor, and the joint Secretaries are Messrs. Don Daly and John Phillips. With such a good start we are sure we can look to Tasmania to build up a strong Christian co-operative movement over the next few years.

We offer all connected with the venture our congratulations.

PERSONAL

HOUSING Society people were sorry to hear of the recent resignation of one of our most active directors, Mr. Leo McNair. Mr. McNair, a director of our No. 15 Society, represented the Housing Societies on the Co-operative Management Committee which controls the administration of the office and on the Board of 157 A'Beckett Street, the holding company which owns our new building. A transfer of location of the business with which Mr. McNair is connected has meant that he has had to sell his home and has therefore ceased to be a member of the Society.

* * *

A RECENT addition to the Housing Society staff is Mr. Bill Cassidy. Bill is well known to Melbourne YCW members through his organization of the football competition. He has been with the P.M.G. Department for many years, and his appointment to the co-op. staff will be a definite acquisition.

* * *

MEMBERS coming to Housing Society Secretary Des McCartney with worries about their house building over the next few months can expect an even more sympathetic hearing than usual. Des is in the midst of building his new home at Strathmore.

REPORT OF Y.C.W. CO-OPS

1960 Was Most Successful for Y.C.W. Co-op

The Annual Report of the Y.C.W. Co-operative Society submitted to the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Society held on 19th August recorded the most successful year the Society has had.

Sales in the Trading Division amounted to £147,555, with a nett profit, before tax, of £11,979; premium income in the Insurance Division amounted to £16,638, with a nett profit of £5370. Provision for tax is £3150.

Distribution of profit recommended by the Board is 5 % dividend on paid up capital and 5% rebate on members' purchases.

Dividend will amount to about £1000 and rebate will amount to approximately £6000. The larger amount of money rebated to member purchasers is a feature of the genuine co-operative.

The rebate on purchases is a means of returning to members what is considered an overcharge on the goods they purchased. In fact, most members who earn dividends and rebates invest such earnings back into the Society. This builds up a good savings account for themselves and helps the Society in its development.

Paid up capital of the Society is £24,449. Members' deposits in the Society in addition to share capital amount to £20,049.

The Board's report congratulated all concerned on the successful year and on the move to new premises at Lombard House.

TRIBUTE

The report, on behalf of the Officers of the Society, presented by the General Secretary, Mr. Ted Long, paid this tribute to Directors:

"I wish to both congratulate and thank all Directors of this Society. They have shown a belief in the Y.C.W. Co-operatives because they have given voluntary service over a long time. They get no remuneration. Mr. C. E. Clements, O.B.E., is the only member of the original Board of 1948 who is still a Director. Mr. Clements is a well-known public man, having been an able President of the R.A.C.V. for the last four years.

Mr. W. F. Davey joined the Board in 1949 and became Chairman in 1952. Mr. Davey is Managing Director of a well-known company in Melbourne.

Mr. F. J. Corder became a Director in 1952. He is a city Solicitor. He was formerly Commissioner for Malta in Australia for a number of years. Mr. Corder was recently honoured by the University of Malta who conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctorate of Laws.

Mr. B. W. Bleazby, an Accountant, joined the Board in 1953, and has been one of the most active members in discharging a Director's duties.

Two other Accountants, Messrs. P. J. Mitchell and D. T. Armstrong, became Directors in 1954. Mr. Mitchell is associated with the management of well-known businesses in Melbourne and is a man of fame in the football administration.

Mr. Armstrong, as well as being a Director in this Society, is Director of other Y.C.W. Co-operatives also. His contributions to discussions ensure that sound principles operate.

Mr. F. A. James was appointed to the Board in 1956. A progressive businessman with considerable initiative, he has been of great benefit to the Society.

This combination of men, loyal to the ideals of the Y.C.W. Co-operatives, possessed of business experience and not afraid to show confidence in their staff and the future of Co-operatives, has played a big part in enabling the Society to reach the stage where it could move into good premises."

The Chairman, Mr. W. F. Davey, paid tribute to Father F. W. Lombard, the founder of the Y.C.W. and to the pioneers of the Y.C.W. Co-operative Societies.

CREDIT SOC. FIRST REGISTERED

IN the few short years of its existence the Association of Catholic Co-operative Credit Societies has a record of growth and achievement of which it may be justly proud.

As with any Association, its strength lies in the degree of support and co-operation it receives from its members and the Association has been truly blessed in this respect.

Here are a few milestones in its history:

- It was the first Association of Credit Societies registered under the Co-operation Act.
- It has provided the organization and drive which has resulted in the establishment of Credit Societies in 14 parishes so far.
- It now operates as a Reserve Bank for member societies and arranges loans between societies.
- It has taken the initiative in efforts to secure a better deal for Credit Societies by representations to the Taxation Authorities.
- It is now arranging insurance cover on an Association basis for the repayment of loans, on the death of the borrower.
- It provides expert advice on accountancy and the operation of Credit Societies as well as supplying the necessary books and forms.
- It provides guidance and encouragement for the Directors of new societies to aid their personal development and fit them better for their job.

Anyone Can Join

Any person over 18 years of age is eligible to apply for membership of a Co-operative Credit Society. If you live in one of the parishes listed on this page you should get in touch with the Secretary named there. He will be glad to explain the Society to you and get you to sign up.

You have to apply for 5 £1 shares and pay a 2/- joining fee. You do not have to pay the £5 for your shares immediately. All that is essential is that you pay 2/- per share with your application. The remaining £4/10/- is called up by your Society as it sees fit.

That does not mean that the Society does not want more than 10/- invested by you. If everyone put only 10/- into the Society it would not accumulate much money to lend.

So you are encouraged to start placing money on deposit every week with the Society. Build up savings in it or use it to budget-save so that you have money saved up to pay those periodical bills that come to hand from time to time, e.g., electricity account, rates, insurance, car registration, school fees, gas bill, etc.

It is a simple matter to arrange this budget saving with your Society Secretary. Adoption of it helps your family control its domestic finance, and it helps your Society and its members by increasing its funds for lending.

Parents can enrol their children in the Society as depositors. Withdrawals can be made only on the signature of one of the child's parents. Each child depositor receives a passbook in which each deposit is recorded.

Think it over. The Society is there to help all parishioners. It can help you and your family. It enables you to help your fellow parishioners. It is a means of enabling people to exercise social charity. That is a Christian remedy to many of our social ills today.

Why not help this good work expand by being in it?

To Start One

If there is not a Credit Society in your parish you could take action to get one formed.

The procedure is simple, but *careful preparation* should be made before one is formed.

The value of the Society is tremendous. All that is needed to start preparations is one interested person.

He can contact the Secretary of the Association of Catholic Co-operative Credit Societies, Lombard House, 157 a'Beckett Street, Melbourne. (Phone 34-6651).

The Association will provide all the advice and personal assistance needed to get a Society started.

ASSOC. OF CATHOLIC CO-OP CREDIT SOCS. LTD.

Society and Name and Address

Glen Waverley:
Mr. C. Stocks,
Lot 25, High Street Road,
Glen Waverley, Vic.

Clayton:
Mr. J. Carr,
37 Madeleine Street,
Clayton, Vic.

Box Hill:
Mr. B. Griffin,
99 Medway Street,
Box Hill, E.11.

East Bentleigh:
Mr. D. Lawler,
97 East Boundary Road,
East Bentleigh.

Mount Waverley:
Mr. P. O'Connor,
Virginia Street,
Mount Waverley, Vic.

Ballarat East:
Mr. P. Denehy,
29a King Street South,
Ballarat East.

Central:
Mr. R. Maybury,
9 Jacka Street,
North Balwyn.

Croydon:
Mr. W. Clarke,
29 Lusher Road,
Croydon, Vic.

Mitcham:
Mr. L. Stewart,
18 Cherry Grove,
Mitcham, Vic.

Reservoir:
Mr. J. Giddens,
High Street,
Reservoir.

Maryknoll:
Mr. K. Staindl,
Post Office,
Maryknoll, Vic.

Dnister:
Mr. V. Ptasznyk,
51 Wheatsheaf Road,
Glenroy.

Ringwood:
Mr. J. G. Stafford,
4 Great Ryrie Street,
Ringwood.

Cheltenham:
Mr. T. Cowie,
67 Evesham Road,
Cheltenham.

Greythorne:
Mr. R. J. McMillan,
28 Abbot Street,
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Save on Rail Fares

CREDIT NOTES

Your parish Credit Society can help you to save money on rail fares if you are a regular train traveller. A yearly ticket reduces your fare—provided you have the ready cash to buy one.

If you haven't, you can borrow from your Credit Society for it. Pay back weekly to the Society the amount you would pay for your weekly ticket.

Here are two examples—similar tables would apply to other suburbs:—

Station to City	Weekly Ticket	Cost of Weekly Ticket for 49 Weeks	Yearly Ticket	Saving
Box Hill	17/3d.	£42/5/3	£33/13/3	£8/11/9
Cheltenham	19/9d.	£48/7/9	£38/10/6	£9/17/3

For the purpose of this illustration three weeks recreation leave has been allowed when calculating the annual cost of fares on the weekly rate.

Nett interest on a loan of £34 over 12 months would be about £1/10/-, therefore the Box Hill traveller is still saving approximately £7 per year on his annual ticket.

This practice is being followed by a number of people, and perhaps many more would like to do so. Your parish Credit Society Secretary will be pleased to hear from you if you are interested.

St. Leonard's Credit

St. Leonard's Co-operative Credit Society Ltd. claims to be the premier parish credit society in the Association.

It was the first Society with its own office accommodation, in the form of a bungalow erected near the church in Springvale Road, which has become a popular meeting place for the parish—as shelter from rain after Mass, for parish committee meetings and recently as Canvas Office during the Sacrificial Giving Campaign.

The Society was the first to introduce the Budget Plan, with the emphasis on the use of funds in the form of "budgeting" savings as distinct from "permanent" savings. One of the reasons given for not joining the "parish bank" is no money, and this plan more than counters this excuse. In addition to increased funds for the Society, budgeting brings a member into contact with the Society more often.

St. Leonard's Co-operative Credit Society Ltd. has the distinction of introducing a new idea for distribution of profits, back to those who provide them—the loan borrowers—only. As a result of these amendments to the rules the tax bill for years ended 31/3/'59 and 31/3/'60 has been reduced from £83 to £4.

In accord with its position the Society hereby challenges all other parish credit societies to top the selling figures of its sales' representative for the period ending 31st March, 1961.

TRADING TOPICS

CAN ANYONE BUY FROM THE Y.C.W. CO-OPERATIVE TRADING?

Yes, anyone—member or non-member, Catholic or non-Catholic.

But any person who buys from it is wise to become a member. He shares in the profits of the Society if he is a member—a non-member doesn't.

This share in the profits is by means of a rebate at the end of the financial year of the Society, in proportion to a member's purchases for the year. The Society's rebate is usually 5% of the price he paid for his purchases.

A person who is a member of a parish Credit Society does not have to join the Y.C.W. Co-operative Society to be eligible to get rebates on his purchases from the Trading Society. If he produces his Credit Society passbook to the Trading Society his membership will be recorded on his purchases account at the Trading office and his rebate in due course will come back to him through his Credit Society.

Yes—Cash, Layby or Terms!

Terms are lower than hire-purchase rates but higher than Credit Society rates.

A member of a Credit Society buying from the Trading should therefore try to get a loan from his Credit Society for any terms purchase he wants to make from the Trading. The Credit Society will pay cash to the Trading and the member will repay his loan to the Credit Society.

Are You A Real Co-operator?

A REAL CO-OPERATOR JOINS A CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY TO GIVE AS WELL AS TO GAIN.

He gives it his TIME and ENTHUSIASM; for he sees that the Movement needs all that is best and noblest in him, even efforts of self-denial. Shoulder to shoulder with his brother, he works to further the causes of Progressive Humanity for which Co-operation stands.

FOR THIS REASON
THE REAL CO-OPERATOR DOES NOT RETAIN FOR HIS OWN PERSONAL USE ALL HIS SAVINGS RETURNS.

He knows that his society needs more share capital, that its committee can buy at better advantage if the capital is increasing, because the society then has a better business standing.

BUT THE SHAM CO-OPERATOR THINKS ONLY OF HIMSELF AND WHAT HE CAN GET OUT OF THE STORE.

The sham co-operator always draws his savings-returns, and what he does not spend he re-invests in some concern that is anti-co-operative. If he were wise, he would know that by turning his money back into the Society it could be made of more service to himself. If he were loyal, he would stick to Co-operation no matter what the inducements elsewhere.

THE REAL CO-OPERATOR BUYS ONLY AT HIS "CO-OP."

He tells others that they must not buy from a competitor who tries to get their trade by under-selling. The more they buy at their store the more frequent is the turnover, the fresher the stock, the less the waste, the larger the quarterly savings. His store cannot thrive except by receiving all of his trade.

THE REAL CO-OPERATOR IS FAMILIAR WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF CO-OPERATION

He meets with his fellow-members and discusses with them and the president, the treasurer and the manager, the problems that they are handling. He never lets them think that they can run his Society for him, and that he is content as long as he draws his annual benefit.

HE PUTS THOUGHT INTO THE SELECTION OF COMMITTEES. HE GIVES THEM A FRIENDLY VIGILANCE.

He lets them know that he does not delegate responsibility to them in order to shirk it himself, but merely for administrative efficiency.

THE REAL CO-OPERATOR WORKS FOR HIS "CO-OP." AS WELL AS THINKS AND TALKS.

When he knows its needs, he plunges in to help as a voluntary worker.

He is willing to roll up his sleeves and help in any emergency.

A REAL CO-OPERATOR knows that service in the Co-operative Movement is open to all: that the training and the responsibility develop latent abilities and business efficiency. He discovers that men with no more special business talent than himself, can carry on big works successfully.

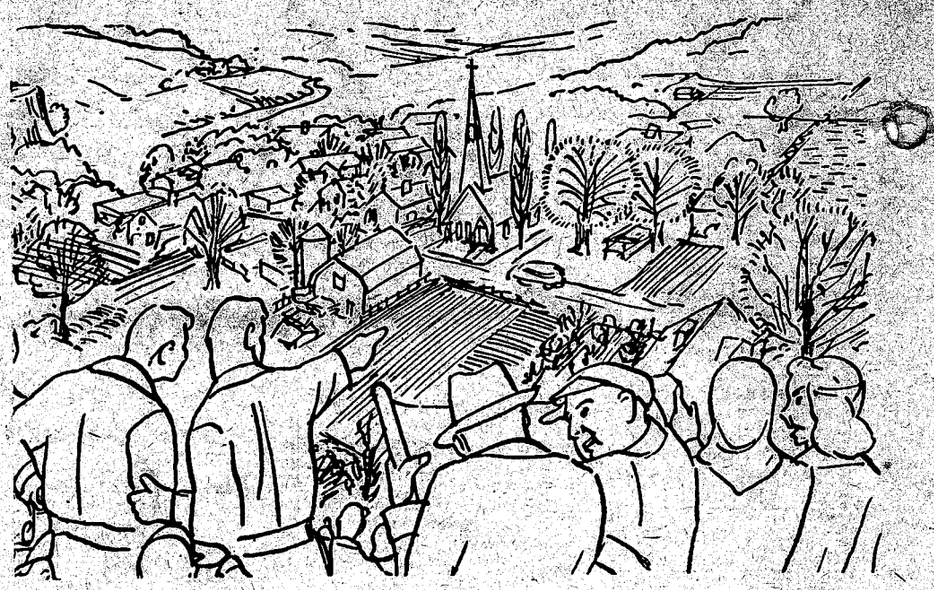
THE REAL CO-OPERATOR trusts to the training, the democracy and the self-help of Co-operation to emancipate all Co-operatives from subservience and self-distrust and to develop in them efficiency.

He knows that through Co-operation a spirit of social charity is developed. Selfishness is overcome and brotherly love reigns.

Co-operation is a Code of Life. It offers no magic. It implies instead, tolerance and understanding.

It demands a harder grind of those, who are better endowed by nature, to serve those who are less so and a scrupulous keeping away from the illusion 'something for nothing'.

—SHRI S. K. DEY.



AROUND THE CO-ORS

By Your Roving Reporter

Feature of co-op news at the moment is the attractive furniture and floor coverings showrooms at Lombard House. It is a big step from the humble premises previously used by the YCW Trading. As one of the early customer-members of the co-op I walked into and through the new showrooms with a lot of pride, and agreed with Manager Frank McCann's comment—"It's a dream come true". . . .

In talking to Brian Perry, floor manager at the Co-op Trading, I learned just how wide is the range of goods supplied. It seems to me that any goods desired in the furniture or household equipment can be obtained there. . . .

A walk upstairs led me into the floor coverings showroom where I saw Ken Maine, sales manager, proudly displaying carpets to a keen couple. Ken, who is an expert in floor coverings with over twenty years experience in the trade, is very happy with his present accommodation. . . .

The Board Room at Lombard House emphasises the spirit of the Y.C.W. Co-operatives with a large crucifix prominently displayed on one of its walls.

Incidentally, I was told that the various groups of Y.C.W. Societies are directed by about 200 Directors. This seemed a bit exaggerated to me. Why so many?

It was pointed out that each Society has its own Board of Directors. The philosophy of the Y.C.W. Co-ops is to avoid over centralization — thus the large number of Boards which educates more co-operators and brings society control closer to the members.

* * *

On a quiz of what else is happening in Co-op circles, I find that the Association of Catholic Co-operative Credit Societies is presenting a case to the Commonwealth Committee on Taxation this month. The Committee is considering cases in relation to anomalies in taxation. Association feels strongly that Credit Societies are treated anomalously. They are using their rights to try to have those anomalies corrected.

* * *

Two new parish societies made their debut last month: Cheltenham and Highett. Secretary at Cheltenham will be Tom Cowie, and at Highett, Bert Battye.

The Haves & Have-Nots

NEW YORK CITY.—"The fear of appearing foolish has created more nonenities in American life than I'd care to count," Co-operative President, Murray Lincoln, says in his forthcoming autobiography, "Vice-President in Charge of Resolution."

In his book, Lincoln says the world's central problem is "one of nations that have and nations that have not.

"No nation will progress towards democracy and the sophisticated arts of self-government if most of its people struggle to raise enough food to stay alive. The miracle of the industrial revolution is that machines have freed us from the greatest tyrant of all, the invisible demon that makes us hunt for food.

"There are always people talking about overpopulation, yet there is no more densely populated country than Holland. It has abundant food. The moment food is at hand, all talk of overpopulation fades away.

"The world's economy feeds mighty few people well and a lot of people poorly." Economic democracy, through co-operative ownership, can change this drastically."

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